

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 JUSE-00 VOE-00 CA-01
INSE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 /093 W
-----109035 211901Z/50

P 211835Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8430
ALL USCONS MEXICO POUCH

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 MEXICO 03003

EO 11652:
TAGS: PGOV, MX, US
SUBJECT: EXCELSIOR INTERVIEW WITH ANNIE GUTIERREZ, WHITE
HOUSE STAFF

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION ARTICLE BY EXCELSIOR
WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FAUSTO FERNANDEZ PONTE THAT
APPEARED FEBRUARY 18.

2. BEGIN TEXT. HEADING: US ATTEMPTS TO IMPOSE AN ECON-
OMIC PLAN ON US--A CONDITION FOR CHANGING THE BRACERO
PROJECT--"A BITTER PILL THAT MEXICO MUST SWALLOW" --
"MONDALE PUT IT FORWARD AND THERE WAS NO INTEREST: ANA
GUTIERREZ". ARTICLE: WASHINGTON, D.C., FEBRUARY 17.
THE USG TOLD THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT VERY CLEARLY "THAT THE
PLAN OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER FOR UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS IS
NOT NEGOTIABLE AND WILL NOT BE CHANGED OR OPENED FOR
FURTHER DISCUSSION", UNTIL US PROPOSALS FOR THE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT OF MEXICO ARE ACCEPTED. THESE PROPOSALS REFER
MORE TO PROGRAMS OF INTENSIVE LABOR THAN TO INDUSTRIAL-
IZATION, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

IN AN ENERGETIC TONE, ANA GUTIERREZ, WHITE HOUSE
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LIAISON WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PRINCIPAL AD-
VISER OF THE PRESIDENT ON IMMIGRATION AND UNDOCUMENTEDS,
SAID FURTHER: "THERE ARE SOME ASPECTS OF THE CARTER PLAN
THAT PERHAPS DON'T PLEASE MEXICO; BUT IT'S GOING TO
COME. IT'S A BITTER PILL THAT THE MEXICANS ARE GOING TO
HAVE TO SWALLOW".

SHE ADDED: "IT IS VERY CLEAR THAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAS TO DO SOMETHING ON ITS PART TO REDUCE THE LARGE NUMBER OF UNDOCUMENTED MEXICANS (GOING) TO THE US. IF MEXICAN OFFICIALS WERE SERIOUS ABOUT PROGRAMS OF INTENSIVE LABOR, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO TALK ABOUT IT, BUT THE CARTER PLAN IS NOT NEGOTIABLE".

SHE INDICATED: "BUT MEXICAN OFFICIALS DON'T SEEM TO HAVE MUCH INTEREST IN THE MATTER. VICE PRESIDENT WALTER F. MONDALE PROPOSED TO THEM PROGRAMS OF INTENSIVE LABOR. AMBASSADOR PATRICK J. LUCEY PUT FORTH THE IDEA ON TWO OCCASIONS. MEXICO IS NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE CONDITIONS SET BY INTERNATIONAL LENDING INSTITUTIONS; THE WORLD BANK HAS INDICATED THAT IT IS INCLINED TO COMMIT SOME HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO LABOR INTENSIVE PROGRAMS IN MEXICO, IF MEXICO DOES CERTAIN THINGS. MEXICO IS NOT MOVING IN THIS DIRECTION."

"VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE MADE THE US PROPOSALS TO PRESIDENT JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO DURING HIS VISIT TO MEXICO LAST MONTH. MONDALE, AFTER A TALK WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO, REPORTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD SUPPORT WHATEVER REQUEST FOR CREDIT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT MADE TO THE WORLD BANK, THE IDB, OR OTHER BANKS OF THE SAME KIND."

"IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE PRESS, MONDALE AVOIDED
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LINKING THE OFFER OF HELP TO MEXICAN CREDIT REQUESTS TO THE FLOOD OF UNDOCUMENTED MEXICANS TO THE US AND THE PLAN OF PRESIDENT CARTER REGARDINT THEM."

BEFORE BEING NAMED PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADVISER, ANA GUTIERREZ WAS A JUDGE IN CALIFORNIA. IN THIS POSITION SHE WAS VERY WELL KNOWN FOR THE TOUGHNESS AND RIGIDITY WITH WHICH SHE INTERPRETED THE LAW.

DURING THE PRESS INTERVIEW, MRS. GUTIERREZ, IN REFERRING TO UNDOCUMENTEDS, ALWAYS SPOKE OF THEM AS "ILLEGALS" AND "ILLEGAL ALIENS", AND SAID THAT "IF THEY WANT TO CHANGE THE CARTER PLAN REGARDING THEM, THEY WILL HAVE TO GO TO CONGRESS. THE WHITE HOUSE IS NOT GOING TO CHANGE IT OR OPEN IT FOR DISCUSSION."

"WITH REGARD TO MEXICO, IT IS VERY CLEAR THAT IT IS GOING TO HAVE TO DO SOMETHING FOR ITS PART TO REDUCE THE LARGE NUMBER OF ITS UNDOCUMENTED NATIONALS GOING TO THE UNITED STATES. IF MEXICAN OFFICIALS WERE SERIOUS ABOUT LABOR INTENSIVE PROGRAMS, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO TALK WITH THEM."

"WE FEEL THAT WE HAVE TO PRESS THE SITUATION OF UN- DOCUMENTED ILLEGALS TO FORCE MEXICO TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF ITS FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT; TO MOVE AWAY FROM INTENSIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND TO FOCUS ITS EFFORTS ON DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INTENSIVE LABOR.

IN THIS SENSE, WE AGREE WITH THE GRAYSON THESIS (SPANISH: "NOS SENTIMOS IGUAL QUE LA TESIS GRAYSON"), (IDENTIFIED AS BEING THE WORK OF GEORGE GRAYSON, AN AMERICAN INTELLECTUAL WHO THOUGHT THAT THE BORDER WITH MEXICO SHOULD BE CLOSED UNILATERALLY BY THE UNITED STATES). FOR THIS REASON WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT MONDALE HAD TO TAKE A STRONG POSITION IN MEXICO (DURING HIS VISIT) AND MAKE THE POINT CLEAR.

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8431
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IN MEXICO, AFTER SEEING LOPEZ PORTILLO, MONDALE READ THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON JANUARY 20:

"I INFORMED PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO THAT THE UNITED STATES IS DISPOSED AND WILLING TO DO ALL POSSIBLE, INCLUDING SUPPORTING EVEN GREATER EFFORTS OF THE WORLD BANK AND THE IDB, TO (PROMOTE) NEW EFFORTS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN MEXICO." END TEXT. THOMPSON

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